

## Federal Communications Commission

## § 73.207

States-Canada border; thence southerly and following that border until it again intersects the 43.5° parallel; thence east along this parallel to the 71st meridian; thence in a straight line to the intersection of the 69th meridian and the 45th parallel; thence east along the 45th parallel to the Atlantic Ocean. When any of the above lines pass through a city, the city shall be considered to be located in Zone I. (See Figure 1 of § 73.699.)

(b) Zone I-A consists of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and that portion of the State of California which is located south of the 40th parallel.

(c) Zone II consists of Alaska, Hawaii and the rest of the United States which is not located in either Zone I or Zone I-A.

[29 FR 14116, Oct. 14, 1964, and 31 FR 10125, July 27, 1966, as amended at 48 FR 29504, June 27, 1983]

### § 73.207 Minimum distance separation between stations.

(a) Except for assignments made pursuant to § 73.213 or 73.215, FM allotments and assignments must be separated from other allotments and assignments on the same channel (co-channel) and five pairs of adjacent channels by not less than the minimum distances specified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section. The Commission will not accept petitions to amend the Table of Allotments unless the reference points meet all of the minimum distance separation requirements of this section. The Commission will not accept applications for new stations, or applications to change the channel or location of existing assignments unless transmitter sites meet the minimum distance separation requirements of this section, or such applications conform to the requirements of § 73.213 or 73.215. However, applications to modify the facilities of stations with short-spaced antenna locations authorized pursuant to prior waivers of the distance separation requirements may be accepted, provided that such applications propose to maintain or improve that particular spacing deficiency. Class D (secondary) assignments are subject only to the distance separation requirements contained in paragraph (b)(3) of this section. (See § 73.512 for

rules governing the channel and location of Class D (secondary) assignments.)

(b) The distances listed in Tables A, B, and C apply to allotments and assignments on the same channel and each of five pairs of adjacent channels. The five pairs of adjacent channels are the first (200 kHz above and 200 kHz below the channel under consideration), the second (400 kHz above and below), the third (600 kHz above and below), the fifty-third (10.6 MHz above and below), and the fifty-fourth (10.8 MHz above and below). The distances in the Tables apply regardless of whether the proposed station class appears first or second in the "Relation" column of the table.

(1) Domestic allotments and assignments must be separated from each other by not less than the distances in Table A which follows:

TABLE A—MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS IN KILOMETERS (MILES)

Relation	Co-channel	200 kHz	400/600 kHz	10.6/10.8 MHz
A to A .....	115 (71)	72 (45)	31 (19)	10 (6)
A to B1 .....	143 (89)	96 (60)	48 (30)	12 (7)
A to B .....	178 (111)	113 (70)	69 (43)	15 (9)
A to C3 .....	142 (88)	89 (55)	42 (26)	12 (7)
A to C2 .....	166 (103)	106 (66)	55 (34)	15 (9)
A to C1 .....	200 (124)	133 (83)	75 (47)	22 (14)
A to C0 .....	215 (134)	152 (94)	86 (53)	25 (16)
A to C .....	226 (140)	165 (103)	95 (59)	29 (18)
B1 to B1 .....	175 (109)	114 (71)	50 (31)	14 (9)
B1 to B .....	211 (131)	145 (90)	71 (44)	17 (11)
B1 to C3 .....	175 (109)	114 (71)	50 (31)	14 (9)
B1 to C2 .....	200 (124)	134 (83)	56 (35)	17 (11)
B1 to C1 .....	233 (145)	161 (100)	77 (48)	24 (15)
B1 to C0 .....	248 (154)	180 (112)	87 (54)	27 (17)
B1 to C .....	259 (161)	193 (120)	105 (65)	31 (19)
B to B .....	241 (150)	169 (105)	74 (46)	20 (12)
B to C3 .....	211 (131)	145 (90)	71 (44)	17 (11)
B to C2 .....	241 (150)	169 (105)	74 (46)	20 (12)
B to C1 .....	270 (168)	195 (121)	79 (49)	27 (17)
B to C0 .....	272 (169)	214 (133)	89 (55)	31 (19)
B to C .....	274 (170)	217 (135)	105 (65)	35 (22)

TABLE A—MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS IN KILOMETERS (MILES)—Continued

Relation	Co-channel	Adjacent Channels			I.F. 10.6/ 10.8 MHz
		200 kHz	400/600 kHz	10.6/ 10.8 MHz	
C3 to C3 .....	153 (95)	99 (62)	43 (27)	14 (9)	
C3 to C2 .....	177 (110)	117 (73)	56 (35)	17 (11)	
C3 to C1 .....	211 (131)	144 (90)	76 (47)	24 (15)	
C3 to C0 .....	226 (140)	163 (101)	87 (54)	27 (17)	
C3 to C .....	237 (147)	176 (109)	96 (60)	31 (19)	
C2 to C2 .....	190 (118)	130 (81)	58 (36)	20 (12)	
C2 to C1 .....	224 (139)	158 (98)	79 (49)	27 (17)	
C2 to C0 .....	239 (148)	176 (109)	89 (55)	31 (19)	
C2 to C .....	249 (155)	188 (117)	105 (65)	35 (22)	
C1 to C1 .....	245 (152)	177 (110)	82 (51)	34 (21)	
C1 to C0 .....	259 (161)	196 (122)	94 (58)	37 (23)	
C1 to C .....	270 (168)	209 (130)	105 (65)	41 (25)	
C0 to C0 .....	270 (168)	207 (129)	96 (60)	41 (25)	
C0 to C .....	281 (175)	220 (137)	105 (65)	45 (28)	
C to C .....	290 (180)	241 (150)	105 (65)	48 (30)	

(2) Under the Canada-United States FM Broadcasting Agreement, domestic U.S. allotments and assignments within 320 kilometers (199 miles) of the common border must be separated from Canadian allotments and assignments by not less than the distances given in Table B, which follows. When applying Table B, U.S. Class C2 allotments and assignments are considered to be Class B; also, U.S. Class C3 allotments and assignments and U.S. Class A assignments operating with more than 3 kW ERP and 100 meters antenna HAAT (or equivalent lower ERP and higher antenna HAAT based on a class contour distance of 24 km) are considered to be Class B1.

TABLE B—MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS IN KILOMETERS

Relation	Co-Channel	Adjacent Channels			I.F. 10.6/ 10.8 MHz
		200 kHz	400 kHz	600 kHz	
A-A ..	132	85	45	37	8
A-B1 ..	180	113	62	54	16
A-B ..	206	132	76	69	16
A-C1 ..	239	164	98	90	32

TABLE B—MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS IN KILOMETERS—Continued

Relation	Co-Channel	Adjacent Channels			I.F. 10.6/ 10.8 MHz
		200 kHz	400 kHz	600 kHz	
A-C ..	242	177	108	100	32
B1-B1 ..	197	131	70	57	24
B1-B ..	223	149	84	71	24
B1-C1 ..	256	181	106	92	40
B1-C ..	259	195	116	103	40
B-B ..	237	164	94	74	24
B-C1 ..	271	195	115	95	40
B-C ..	274	209	125	106	40
C1 ..	292	217	134	101	48
C1-C ..	302	230	144	111	48
C-C ..	306	241	153	113	48

(3) Under the 1992 Mexico-United States FM Broadcasting Agreement, domestic U.S. assignments or allotments within 320 kilometers (199 miles) of the common border must be separated from Mexican assignments or allotments by not less than the distances given in Table C in this paragraph (b)(3). When applying Table C—

(i) U.S. or Mexican assignments or allotments which have been notified internationally as Class A are limited to a maximum of 3.0 kW ERP at 100 meters HAAT, or the equivalent;

(ii) U.S. or Mexican assignments or allotments which have been notified internationally as Class AA are limited to a maximum of 6.0 kW ERP at 100 meters HAAT, or the equivalent;

(iii) U.S. Class C3 assignments or allotments are considered Class B1;

(iv) U.S. Class C2 assignments or allotments are considered Class B; and

(v) Class C1 assignments or allotments assume maximum facilities of 100 kW ERP at 300 meters HAAT. However, U.S. Class C1 stations may not, in any event, exceed the domestic U.S. limit of 100 kW ERP at 299 meters HAAT, or the equivalent.

TABLE C—MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS IN KILOMETERS

Relation	Co-Channel	Adjacent Channels			I.F. 10.6 or 10.8 MHz (I.F.)
		200 kHz	400 kHz or 600 kHz	10.6 or 10.8 MHz	
A to A .....	100	61	25	8	
A to AA .....	111	68	31	9	
A to B1 .....	138	88	48	11	
A to B .....	163	105	65	14	
A to C1 .....	196	129	74	21	
A to C .....	210	161	94	28	

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TABLE C—MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION REQUIREMENTS IN KILOMETERS—Continued

Relation	Co-Channel	200 kHz	400 kHz or 600 kHz	10.6 or 10.8 MHz (I.F.)
AA to AA ....	115	72	31	10
AA to B1 ....	143	96	48	12
AA to B .....	178	125	69	15
AA to C1 ....	200	133	75	22
AA to C .....	226	165	95	29
B1 to B1 ....	175	114	50	14
B1 to B .....	211	145	71	17
B1 to C1 ....	233	161	77	24
B1 to C .....	259	193	96	31
B to B1 .....	237	164	65	20
B to C1 .....	270	195	79	27
B to C .....	270	215	98	35
C1 to C1 ....	245	177	82	34
C1 to C .....	270	209	102	41
C to C .....	290	228	105	48

(c) The distances listed below apply only to allotments and assignments on Channel 253 (98.5 MHz). The Commission will not accept petitions to amend the Table of Allotments, applications for new stations, or applications to change the channel or location of existing assignments where the following minimum distances (between transmitter sites, in kilometers) from any TV Channel 6 allotment or assignment are not met:

MINIMUM DISTANCE SEPARATION FROM TV CHANNEL 6 (82–88 MHz)

FM Class	TV Zone I	TV Zones II & III
A .....	17	22
B1 .....	19	23
B .....	22	26
C3 .....	19	23
C2 .....	22	26
C1 .....	29	33
C .....	36	41

[48 FR 29504, June 27, 1983, as amended at 49 FR 10264, Mar. 20, 1984; 49 FR 19670, May 9, 1984; 49 FR 50047, Dec. 26, 1984; 51 FR 26250, July 22, 1986; 54 FR 14963, Apr. 14, 1989; 54 FR 16366, Apr. 24, 1989; 54 FR 19374, May 5, 1989; 54 FR 35338, Aug. 25, 1989; 56 FR 27426, June 14, 1991; 56 FR 57293, Nov. 8, 1991; 62 FR 50256, Sept. 25, 1997; 65 FR 79776, Dec. 20, 2000]

## § 73.208 Reference points and distance computations.

(a)(1) The following reference points must be used to determine distance separation requirements when petitions to amend the Table of Allotments (§ 73.202(b)) are considered:

(i) First, transmitter sites if authorized, or if proposed in applications with

cut-off protection pursuant to paragraph (a)(3) of this section;

(ii) Second, reference coordinates designated by the FCC;

(iii) Third, coordinates listed in the United States Department of Interior publication entitled Index to the National Atlas of the United States of America; or

(iv) Last, coordinates of the main post office.

(The community's reference points for which the petition is submitted will normally be the coordinates listed in the above publication.)

(2) When the distance between communities is calculated using community reference points and it does not meet the minimum separation requirements of § 73.207, the channel may still be allotted if a transmitter site is available that would meet the minimum separation requirements and still permit the proposed station to meet the minimum field strength requirements of § 73.315. A showing indicating the availability of a suitable site should be submitted with the petition. In cases where a station is not authorized in a community or communities and the proposed channel cannot meet the separation requirement a showing should also be made indicating adequate distance between suitable transmitter sites for all communities.

(3) Petitions to amend the Table of Allotments that do not meet minimum distance separation requirements to transmitter sites specified in pending applications will not be considered unless they are filed no later than:

(i) The last day of a filing window if the application is for a new FM facility or a major change in the non-reserved band and is filed during a filing window established under section 73.3564(d)(3); or

(ii) The cut-off date established in a Commission Public Notice under § 73.3564(d) and 73.3573(e) if the application is for a new FM facility or a major change in the reserved band; or

(iii) The date of receipt of all other types of FM applications. If an application is amended so as to create a conflict with a petition for rule making filed prior to the date the amendment is filed, the amended application will be treated as if filed on the date of the